

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel Claim 9. Please amend Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, and 10. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

1. (Currently Amended) A network router to route Internet Protocol (IP) data packets comprising:
 - a plurality of trunk ports, including a composite port of plural ports to plural trunks which serve as a composite trunk to a common destination;
 - a routing fabric ~~for~~ configured to transfer of the IP data packets between trunk ports; and
 - an output port selector configured to use a destination IP address of the IP data packets to which selects an output port for ~~a the IP packets~~ from ~~a the~~ composite port, the output port selector balancing load across the trunks of ~~a the~~ composite trunk according to dynamically adjustable weighting, the load approaching balance across the trunks.
2. (Canceled).
3. (Currently Amended) A network router to route Internet Protocol (IP) data packets comprising:
 - a plurality of trunk ports, including a composite port of plural ports to plural trunks which serve as a composite trunk to a common destination;
 - a routing fabric ~~for~~ configured to transfer of the IP data packets between trunk ports; and
 - an output port selector configured to use a destination IP address of the IP data packets to which selects an output port for ~~a the IP data packets~~ from ~~a the~~ composite port according to a table, the table routes being dynamically adjustable for a load to approach balance across the trunks.
4. (Canceled).

5. (Currently Amended) A method of routing Internet Protocol (IP) data packets in a network router comprising:
 - identifying a destination of the IP data packets;
 - selecting one of plural trunks forming a composite trunk to the destination based on a destination IP address of the IP data packets, the trunk being selected with dynamically adjustable weighting to balance load across the trunks of a composite trunk, the load approaching balance across the trunks; and
 - forwarding the IP data packets toward the destination on the selected trunk.
6. (Canceled).
7. (Currently Amended) A method of routing Internet Protocol (IP) data packets in a network router comprising:
 - identifying a destination of the IP data packets;
 - selecting one of plural trunks forming a composite trunk to the destination based on a destination IP address of the IP data packets, the trunk being selected according to a table, the table routes being dynamically adjustable for a load to approach balance across the trunks; and
 - forwarding the IP data packets toward the destination on the selected trunk.
8. (Canceled).
9. (Canceled).
10. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in Claim 9 5 wherein the network is the Internet and the packets are routed under an Internet protocol.
- 11.-14. (Canceled).